GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:370
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
AID TO DEVELOP BORDER AREAS
RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given any bid to develop border areas in the Punjab during the last three years;

(b) if so, the amount given with details thereof; and

(c) whether the amount of aid given was used for the purpose for which it was given?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a) to (c) : The planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Planning Commission howeversupplements the efforts of the State Governmentin this regard through the allocation of Special Central Assistance under Special Area programmes such as Hill Area Development Programme and Border Area Development Programme. The border blocks ofPunjab are allocated Special Central Assistanceunder the Border Area Development Programme (BADP). The amount released during the last three years is as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

1996-97	8.54
1997-98	8.54
1998-99	7.72

Individual schemes to be taken up under BADP aredecided by a State level Screening Committeepresided over by the Chief Secretary. The State Government in their quarterly progress reports have reported expenditure against the schemes approved by the Screening Committee which is as per the guidelines of the programme.